

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 379: Shehenshahi Navroze Mubarak - Excelsior - Onward and Upwards! - Rise Up You Mazdayasni Zarathushtris - Visperad Karda 15 - Verse 1

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Shehenshahi Navroze Mubarak

Coming Sunday, August 16th, 2020 will be our Shehenshahi Navroze, Farvardin Mah and Hormuzd Roj, Y. Z. 1390! **During these unbelievable times of COVID-19**, it would be difficult to gather with the families and friends, and to visit Atash Kadehs. Still, Jo Ann and I wish you all Humdins of Hafta Keshwar Zamin a very Happy and Healthy Navroze Mubarak! May you have a wonderful time with your loved ones, families and friends for the whole year and many more years to come! May we all do the best we can to celebrate this Navroze during these trying times!

August 15 – Indian Independence Day

Today is the 73rd India Independence Day. We wish all our Indian brethren a very Happy and Healthy Independence Day! I vividly remember August 15th 1947 when we became Independent. I was then in our beloved MF Cama Institute and thanks to our wonderful Gujarati teacher Kaantilaal Upaadhyay Saheb, we used to get the firsthand news about what was going on. I also remember that on our Phillips World Radio in MFCAI, we heard the historic speech of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru with his famous speech: “Tryst with destiny!” His first verse of the speech was:

Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance. It is fitting that at this solemn moment we take the pledge of dedication to the service of India and her people and to the still larger cause of humanity.

What a wonderful speech on our first Independence Day August 15th 1947!

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In spite of the horrible COVID-19 pandemic all over the world, the Shehenshahi 1390 Navroze Mubarak will come with lots of fanfare all over the world! All of us will send good wishes for the Navroze Mubarak to all our families and friends! We will wish all of our Humdins in Hafta

Keshwar Zamin lots of Happiness, friendship, love and sometimes wealth (!) and Good Health during these unbelievable times!

And then most of us are habitually inclined to make New Year Resolutions that most of us usually fail to follow through!

Keeping in the stride of such good tidings, we will start this Navroze Mubarak WZSE by waking up all of us with a rousing Avestan Prayer, Ava Padho! from Visperad which eminent scholar Dr. Ervad J. J. Modi called it -

The Zoroastrian Creed!

Its motto is: **Excelsior - Onward and upwards!**

“The first paragraph of **Visperad Karda 15.1** presented below is considered a very important part of our scriptures, because in it are stated the traits of a true Zoroastrian.

The reason our Community progressed, prospered and reached great heights not only in ancient Iran, but also in India is because of such invaluable teachings in the Avesta.”

(Ervad Shams-ul-ulama Dr. Sir Jivanji J. Modi It is the Zoroastrian Creed!

So, on this Navroze Mubarak's first week, we want to wish you all a Happy New Year again with a rousing Avestan Prayer, Ava Padho! The Zoroastrian Creed:

Excelsior - Onward and Upwards! - Rise Up You Mazdayasni Zarathushtris - Visperad Karda 15 Verse 1

[\(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation\)](#)

Prayer Text	Translation
Ava padho ava zasteh, Ava ushi daarayadhwem, Mazdayasna Zarathushtrayo!	Hold your feet, hands and understanding in readiness, O Mazdayasnaan Zarathushtrayaan!
Daaityanaanm rathwyanaanm, Hvarshtanaanm shyaothnanaanm varezaai.	For the purpose of doing proper, timely, charitable works, and
Pairi adhaaityanaanm arathwyanaanm, Duzhvarshtanaanm shyaothnanaanm varezaai.	For the purpose of avoiding improper, untimely, and uncharitable works.
Verezyaataanmcha idha vohu vaastrya.	Practice good industry here.
Uyamna anuyamnaish dasteh.	Help the needy and relieve them from their needs.

(Translation from: [The Religious Ceremonies and Customs of the Parsees](#) by Ervad Shams- ul-ulama Dr. Sir Jivanji J. Modi 2nd Edition (Reprint) 1995 Published by Union

Press)

SPD Explanation:

1. This Ava Padho Visperad Verse is called By Dr. J. J. Modi as **the Zoroastrian Creed**.
2. Its last sentence mirrors the 3rd sentence of Yathaa Ahu Vairyo for helping needy which our Parsis/Iranis have taken to heart as illustrated by their numerous philanthropic activities in India, Iran and now all over the Hafta Keshwar Zamin! And that earned us the saying: **Parsi thy name is Charity!**
3. The phrase for this verse: **Excelsior - Onward and Upwards** is reflected in the State Flag of one of our US States - New York!

Please see the NY State Flag in the 2nd attachment, with its Motto: **Excelsior!!**

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity and Respect for all burn ever eternal in our hearts so we can do HIS work with humility, diligence and eternal enthusiasm!

In HIS service 24/7!

Atha Jamyaat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

NY State Flag 002

